

**Miami University**  
**Department of Engineering Technology—Advisory Council Minutes**  
***Engineering Technology—Combined Meeting***  
**Friday, November 5, 2004**  
**Marcum Conference Center, Oxford, Ohio**

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## **Minutes**

Attendees: (see lists from breakout sessions)

1. We had brief introductions by each member in attendance. In addition, a membership list was routed requesting updates
2. Rob reviewed ENT faculty and staff positions and programs offered.
3. Updates on some relevant areas being worked on within the department
  - TAC/ABET for EMET program and how advisors may be involved.
  - Senior Design Capstone course and how it is progressing this semester
  - Advisors may be judges and have participated in the past.
  - Long range department plan and how it integrates with plan for regional campuses.
  - Competing for students that might be away from Miami by invading institutions.
  - Assessment plan and how it is evolving
    1. program learning objectives - grads should after graduation
    2. program outcomes included within courses
  - Department education objectives were presented and discussed
  - Changes were pointed out that resulted from input from council members
  - Enrollment discussions
    1. 160 - 170 majors
    2. Fall 2004 slightly lower than Fall 2003
    3. Student credit hours - Approx. 905 Fall 2003; Approx. 820 Fall 2004
    4. Students per section 11 - Fall 2004 slightly higher than Fall 2003
    5. Distance Learning - Local (80%) vs. distance (20%)
    6. BS Majors: MET 35% - EMET 68%
  - It was noted that we now have an advisory council List Serve. All are encouraged to use it for communication.
  - Rob provided a brief overview of Ohio transfer module (programs) and how they are affecting our programs.
  - Senior Design Team Jim Bachmann, Vince Breidenbach, Sean Reed - Basic Utility Vehicle - presentation given to advisors and was targeted toward requests for parts, funding, etc.
  - We then broke into 3 sessions: ECET-AD, MET-AD&BS, and EMET-BS.

Submitted by Rob Speckert

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Present: Mike Armocida, Dave Hacker, Jeff Miller, Ray Scott, Steve Childers, Charles Faulkner, Mark Miller, Greg Pollitt, Mike Scott, Ken Warfield, Mysore Narayanan, Dave Hergert

Dave Hergert began by discussing the newly developed EMET objectives and outcomes. Everyone agreed the objectives and outcomes met the needs of the program. Dave then went into a discussion of how the outcomes are assessed. Assessment tools include:

- Instructor Evaluation Forms
- Student Evaluations
- Peer Evaluations of course notebooks
- SEAS graduate survey
- External judges in ENT 497/498
- Rubrics that measure outcomes

A discussion of distance education came next. Jeff Miller noted the low scores in the SEAS graduate survey from 2003 regarding student lab experience. He suggested this might be improved by have some labs be done individually, rather than by teams. Some students rely too much on others to complete the lab. Dave Hergert agreed that that it would help to have more labs done individually.

Mike Armocida noted that there is not enough PLC experience in our program. Dave Hergert suggested that the two year ECET program might be more appropriate for more hands on experience with ladder logic, but he would look into including more PLC labs in the EMET program.

Dave Hergert then discussed distance education assessment. He noted that the main complaint from distance students is the quality of the interactive video connection. Ken Warfield agreed that this was the main obstacle to a successful program. The department must work on getting this improved.

A general discussion of distance education followed. Dave Hergert noted that there is a grant opportunity to expand our distance program to include more community colleges in the Cleveland area. Everyone cautioned about moving too fast. The advisory council does not want the EMET program to be primarily known as a distance program. Dave Hacker said that until the IVDL is working properly, we shouldn't consider expanding, or at least do it at a slow pace. Steve Childers and Mike Armocida both felt our program would not be looked highly upon if we put too much emphasis on distance education.

During a discussion on ABET, Mike Armocida noted that some employers do care if a program is ABET accredited. Most of the advisory council emphasized the need to become ABET accredited so that our students are looked favorably by industry and have the opportunity to sit for the EIT exam. Submitted by Dave Hergert 11/8/04.

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**Attendance**

Don Becker, Bruce Anderson, Tom Kissner, Shawnon Hudson, Roger Seifried, Rick Mack, Bill Franer, Suguna Bommaraju, and Rob Speckert.

**Discussion:**

The Five Year Plan - Draft 4 was discussed. The following are comments and suggestions on the plan.

Courses

ENT 137: Make this more project oriented

ENT 192: Do some labs using both simulation and electronic hardware

ENT 196: Include the insulated gate bipolar transistor

ENT 291: Include variable speed motor drives

ENT 2?? – Programmable logic Projects: Possibly include the variable speed motor drives in this course.

General and action items:

Possibly include a project that spans several courses – builds on itself

In addition to PLC's, need to cover variable speed drives. Should discuss Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistors—key to variable speed drives.

Advisors had several suggestions for improvement regarding ECET courses/plans, and in many cases corroborated what is already being done.

ENT 196 doesn't need curve tracing, etc. Needs applications. Need to cover Op Amps.

ENT 293 moving toward PALs is good. Is there an industry level system similar to UP2?

Submitted by: Roger Seifried

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**Attendance**

Ron Earley, Vipul Ranatunga, Gary Drigel, Matthew Collins, Amy Harrison, Mike Harrison, Julio Pulido, Dave Lippert, Jim Bachmann, Vince Breidenbach, Sean Reed, Carol Scott, Rick Albright, Ron Clark, Mark Schultz, Greg Pollitt.

**Minutes from Industry Advisor's Council Meeting – November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

Julio Pulido announced the Ingersoll-Rand contribution: \$50,000 donation to the MET program to purchase laboratory equipment out of Ingersoll-Rand products.

Gary Drigel started the discussion regarding campus plans, program locations, and relocation of equipment, followed by Ron Earley on pros and cons about the new plan. Jim Bachman requested further clarification on the offering of classes, and availability of faculty at two locations.

Mike Harrison questioned about grand-fathering into an accredited program. Matt Collins added the status of out-of-state students working in Ohio. Gary Drigel explained about his findings on workers with foreign degrees. Julio Pulido explained the situation with consultancy.

Started the discussion on five-year plan and recruiting updates. Gary Drigel and Ron Earley explained the progress made on sending letters to high-schools through SAES. Jim Bachman pointed out that we should be more involved with Sinclair CC. Gary Drigel informed about the new state-wide initiatives on transfer module. Continued the discussion on various other initiatives taken by faculty on recruiting drives, workshops, etc. Julio pointed out that the university can use speakers from the industry. Mike Harrison and Vipul Ranatunga expressed the interest in conducting software training, and free week-end sessions on educating industry with new engineering software tools.

Panel moved to the discussion on interaction with local industry. Vipul Ranatunga expressed the faculty interest on identifying the needs of the local industry, and promoting industry-sponsored research, in addition to the Senior Design. Gary and Ron updated the panel about the status of the mechanical labs, and new equipment acquisitions.

Jim Bachman, Vince Breidenbach, and Sean Read presented their senior design project, and explained the Basic Utility Vehicle (BUV), and requested support from the industry.

Submitted by: Vipul Ranatunga